



GAIL FARBER, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

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IN REPLY PLEASE  
REFER TO FILE:

B-0  
A3734-4

September 12, 2012

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Gail Farber

*Gail Farber*  
Director of Public Works

### **BOARD MOTION OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2011, AGENDA ITEM 15 - INTERIM REPORT THE FEASIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING A PROACTIVE TRACKING SYSTEM FOR DEFAULTED OR FORECLOSED PROPERTIES IN THE UNINCORPORATED COUNTY**

On September 27, 2011, your Board directed the Department of Public Works to work with appropriate County departments to research the feasibility of implementing a proactive tracking system for defaulted/foreclosed properties in the unincorporated County and report back to the Board.

On November 23, 2011, and December 23, 2011, Public Works submitted interim status reports on the motion. On February 1, 2012, a final report was submitted recommending that we enhance our current code enforcement program through the use of foreclosure property data from the Assessor and that we will monitor the situation and report back in six months as to the effectiveness of the continued operation.

We are continuing to work with appropriate departments, including the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk and the Assessor, and monitoring current code enforcement efforts related to foreclosure activity. We are preparing an update for your consideration and will finalize the report 45 days from the date of this memo.

Each Supervisor  
September 12, 2012  
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In the meantime, if you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me or your staff may contact Dennis Hunter at (626) 458-4006 or [dhunter@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:dhunter@dpw.lacounty.gov).

HT:ll

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cc: Assessor  
Chief Executive Office (Rita Robinson)  
Community Development Commission/Housing Authority  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
County Counsel  
Executive Office  
Department of Public Health  
Department of Regional Planning  
Department of Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

A3734  
B&S



STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES HELD IN ROOM 381B  
OF THE KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

Tuesday, September 27, 2011

9:30 AM

15. Recommendation as submitted by Supervisor Knabe: Direct the Director of Public Works to work with the appropriate County departments including: Regional Planning, Public Health, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, County Counsel and the Chief Executive Office to research the feasibility of implementing a proactive tracking system for defaulted/foreclosed properties in the unincorporated County and report back to the Board within 60 days. (11-4227)

**On motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, this item was approved.**

**Ayes:** 5 - Supervisor Molina, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, Supervisor Yaroslavsky, Supervisor Knabe and Supervisor Antonovich

**Attachments:** Motion by Supervisor Knabe  
Report  
Video  
Audio

The foregoing is a fair statement of the proceedings of the regular meeting held September 27, 2011, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities for which said Board so acts.

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer  
Executive Officer-Clerk  
of the Board of Supervisors

By \_\_\_\_\_

The US subprime mortgage crisis and subsequent recession led to millions of Americans losing their homes through foreclosure. Since 2008, foreclosures across Los Angeles County have risen dramatically. We all hope that this trend will end as economic recovery occurs, but the lack of management of these properties and the subsequent negative impacts of them have become a real issue for this County.

In the Los Angeles County, the way we manage a foreclosed/abandoned home is strictly reactive. Our offices get complaints from nearby residents on problems that have gone unattended for months, and this is often after considerable frustration and aggravation for a lack of a proactive approach to this problem.

It is the responsibility of owners, which are often banks, to manage these properties, but this maintenance often does not take place. Blighted and unkempt homes can lower property values, lead to increased crime, and decrease the quality of life for the surrounding neighbors. Owners/banks are required by law to maintain these properties, and we should hold them accountable to do so.

- M O R E -

MOTION

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

Many jurisdictions have begun creating registries that can track these homes early on in the foreclosure process. By tracking these homes proactively, we can better assure that they are being appropriately maintained.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Public Works to work with the appropriate County departments, including: Regional Planning, Public Health, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, County Counsel and the Chief Executive Office to research the feasibility of implementing a proactive tracking system for defaulted/ foreclosed properties in the unincorporated County and report back to the Board in 60 days.

# # #

AN:eg